CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:

1. A method for building a search query in a data processing system having a graphical user interface, comprising the steps of:

responsive to user input, dropping a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function;

presenting a set of attributes of the first system object; and

responsive to user selection, creating a search query from the selected set of attributes.

2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising the step of using the search query to assemble a set of system objects having attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.

3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI) subsystem attribute.

4. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising the step of defining a search scope for assembling the set of system objects.

5. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the first system object represents the data processing system in a distributed computing environment.

6. A system, comprising:

a bus system

an input device connected to the bus system;

a memory connected to the bus system, wherein the memory includes a set of instructions; and

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit, responsive to user input from the input device, executes the set of instructions to drop a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function, the processing unit presents a set of attributes of the first system object, and responsive to user selection from the input device, the processing unit creates a search query from the selected set of attributes.

7. A system for building a search query in a data processing system having a graphical user interface, comprising:

dropping means, responsive to user input, for dropping a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function;

presenting means for presenting a set of attributes of the first system object; and

creating means, responsive to user selection, for creating a search query from the selected set of attributes.

8. The system as recited in claim 7, further comprising using means for using the search query to assemble a set

of system objects having attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.

9. The system as recited in claim 7, wherein the subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI) subsystem attribute.

10. The system as recited in claim 8, further comprising defining means for defining a search scope for assembling the set of system objects.

11. The system as recited in claim 7, wherein the first system object represents the data processing system in a distributed computing environment.

12. A computer program product in a computer readable medium for building a search query in a data processing system having a graphical user interface, comprising:

instructions, responsive to user input, for dropping a graphical component representing a first system object onto a graphical component representing a query function;

instructions for presenting a set of attributes of the first system object; and

instructions, responsive to user selection, for creating a search query from the selected set of attributes.

13. The computer program product as recited in claim 12, further comprising instructions for using the search query to assemble a set of system objects having attributes similar to the selected set of attributes.

14. The computer program product as recited in claim 12, wherein the subsystem attribute is a graphical user interface (GUI) subsystem attribute.

15. The computer program product as recited in claim 13, further comprising instructions for defining a search scope for assembling the set of system objects.

16. The computer program product as recited in claim 12, wherein the first system object represents the data processing system in a distributed computing environment.